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Little White Barbara

By Eleanor S. March

ILLUSTRATED
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London :
GRANT RICHARDS
1902

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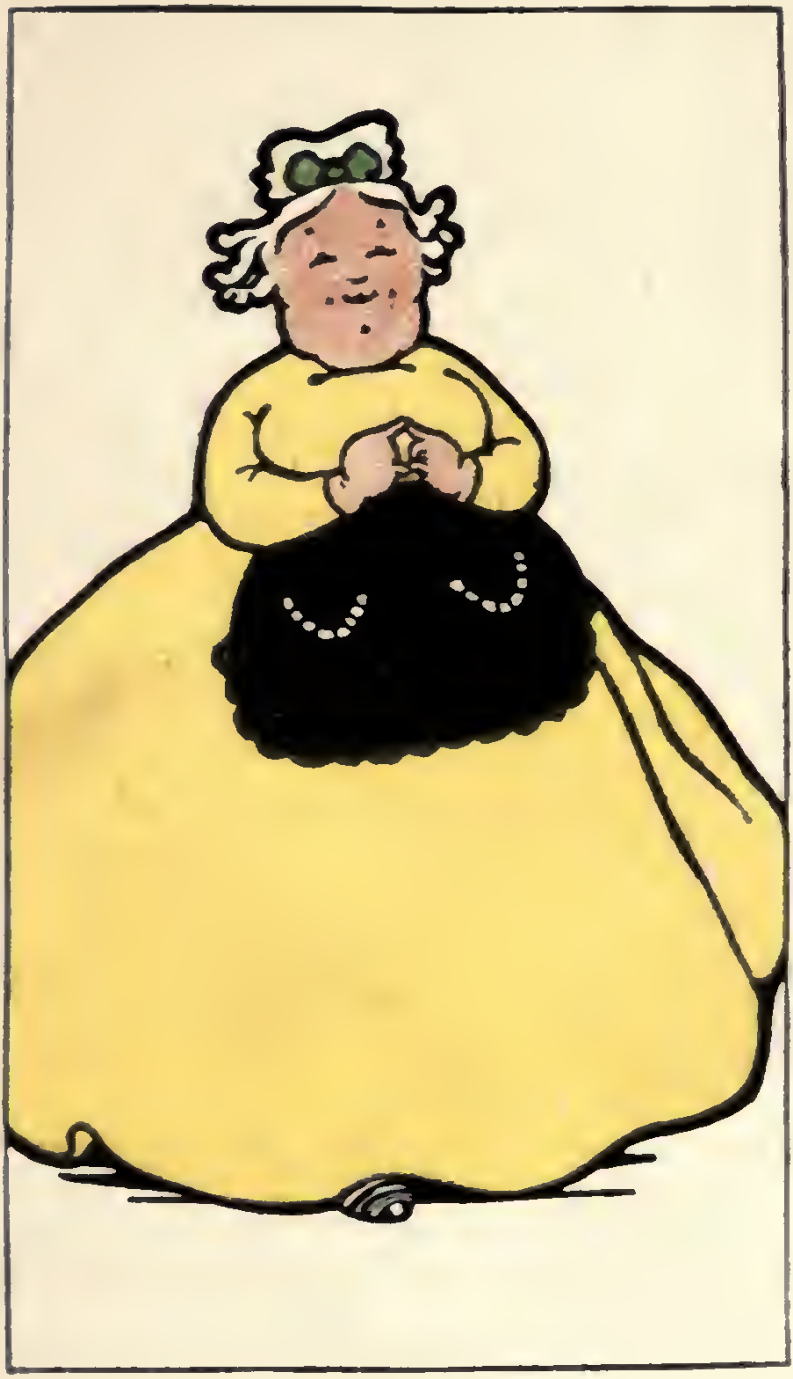
This is Little White Barbara. She was called Little White Barbara because she had such a white face.



She lived with her two aunts, Aunt Dosy and Aunt Posy.

This is Aunt Dosy.

This is Aunt Posy.

They were very kind to her. All day long they used to talk about what she ought to do to get fat and rosy.

Every morning Aunt Dosy gave Little White Barbara cod liver oil to make her fat.

COD
LIV
ER
OIL
COD
LIVE
COD
LIVER
OIL

And Aunt Posy rubbed her cheeks with a rough towel to make them red.

If it was raining they made her sit indoors all day by the fire.

And if it was hot they fanned her all day long to keep her cool.

If it was raining they made her sit indoors all day by the fire.

And if it was hot they fanned her all day long to keep her cool.

But still she only got paler and paler,

And thinner and thinner.

Until at last she almost faded away, and you could only see her by looking through a telescope.

And then Aunt Dosy and Aunt Posy began to cry and say, "Oh, dear, what shall we do!"

They cried so hard that their caps fell off, and then they said: "We will send for Dr. Funnyman."

When Dr. Funnyman came he looked at Little White Barbara through an eye-glass and a magnifying glass and an opera-glass and a telescope, and then he said to Aunt Dosy and Aunt Posy: "You must go to London and buy her some Laughing Medicine. I will send her something to do her good till you come back."

So Aunt Dosy and Aunt Posy went to London to buy the Laughing Medicine. And the Doctor sent Barbara —what do you think ?—not a bottle of medicine, but

His naughty little boy Tommy to play with her.

Tommy looked very funny. He had a frog in one pocket and a guinea-pig in the other, and directly Barbara saw him

HER FACE

GOT FATTER

AND FATTER

AND FATTER

AND FATTER!

She began to laugh.

And she laughed and laughed, and all the time

[*opposite*]

And then Tommy showed her how to climb trees, but

She fell down, and then she began to laugh so much that

This time she got so fat, all the buttons came off the back of her frock.

Then they ran races round the garden till Barbara's cheeks got quite red, and

Tommy showed her how to play leap-frog, and she was so hungry at tea-time that

She ate twenty-two pieces of bread-and-butter and seventeen pieces of bread-and-jam, and drank ten cups of milk, and

When Aunt Dosy and Aunt Posy came back from London,—where they could not find any Laughing Medicine in any of the shops,—

They found Little White Barbara quite rosy and fat, and they *were* so happy.

And she was never called Little White Barbara any more.